

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-15 and 18-20 without disclaimer or prejudice to applicants' right to pursue the subject matters of these claims in the future.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c), this listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) A fusion protein comprising a human biliary glycoprotein (CEACAM1) fragment which is derived from the extracellular domain of CEACAM1 and an Fc portion of a human immunoglobulin.

17. (Original) The fusion protein of claim 16, wherein said CEACAM1 fragment substantially consists of the amino sequence from position 1 to 228 of SEQ ID NO: 2 (Figure 1) or a fragment thereof.

18-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising the fusion protein of claim 16 ~~or 17, the polynucleotide of claim 18, the vector of claim 19 or the cell of claim 20,~~ optionally in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

22. (Original) A method for preventing or treatment of a mammal subject afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis or multiple sclerosis, comprising the step of administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutic effective amount of a fusion protein of a fragment of biliary glycoprotein and a fragment of an immunoglobulin.

23. (New) The fusion protein of claim 16 comprising the hinge-CH2-CH3 region of the Fc portion of the immunoglobulin.
24. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said fusion protein is a fusion protein comprising a human biliary glycoprotein (CEACAM1) fragment which is derived from the extracellular domain of CEACAM1 and an Fc portion of a human immunoglobulin.
25. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the fusion protein is administered at a dosage in the range of 0.1 mg/kg/day to 25 mg/kg/day.
26. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the fusion protein is adapted in a form to be administered intravenously, subcutaneous, intramuscular or by inhalation.
27. (New) A composition comprising the fusion protein of claim 17, optionally in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
28. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said fusion protein is a fusion protein comprising a human biliary glycoprotein (CEACAM1) fragment which is derived from the extracellular domain of CEACAM1 and an Fc portion of a human immunoglobulin, wherein said CEACAM1 fragment substantially consists of the amino sequence from position 1 to 228 of SEQ ID NO: 2 (Figure 1) or a fragment thereof.
29. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said fusion protein is a fusion protein comprising a human biliary glycoprotein (CEACAM1) fragment which is derived from the extracellular domain of CEACAM1 and an Fc portion of a human immunoglobulin, and comprising the hinge-CH2-CH3 region of the Fc portion of the immunoglobulin.